

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please make the following amendments to the specification, where brackets are to be taken to indicate deletions and underlining to indicate the addition of text.

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Claim 1 (Amended): An apparatus for examining and inspecting at least one sample, in order to determine the characteristics of the sample, the apparatus comprising:

- i) a support for receiving a compact disc, the compact disc having deposited on a surface thereof at least one sample;
- ii) inspection means for effecting a physical change in at least one sample, the inspection means capable of moving translationally in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction and being positioned for registration with the surface of the compact disc bearing at least one sample; and
- iii) a traversal mechanism adapted for reciprocating movement to move the sample in and out of the path of the inspection means.

Claim 2 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the traversal mechanism is a driver having a rotatable drive mechanism that rotates the compact disc.

Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the traversal mechanism effectuates positional change between the sample and the compact disc in the radial direction.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the traversal mechanism effectuates positional change between the sample and the compact disc in the radial

direction.

Claim 5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Original): A mass spectrometer incorporating the apparatus of claim 1 further comprised of an analyzer selected from the group consisting of quadrupole, time of flight (TOF), quadrupole TOF, quadrupole-quadrupole TOF (Qq TOF), triple quadrupole TOF, magnetic sector, and ion trap mass analyzers.

Claim 11 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprised of a scanning assembly that includes a plurality of ion guide rods fixed in a positioning guide, the ion guide rods defining an inlet at a first end proximate to the compact disc, an outlet at a second end proximate to an entrance to the analytical device, the positioning guide further having a lens situated within the positioning guide for allowing the passage of laser energy through the positioning guide.

Claim 12 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the positioning guide is fixed in place.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the positioning guide is movable in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the positioning guide is movable in the X direction and the Y direction.

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Claim 15 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the positioning guide, ion guide rods, and analytical device are movable in concert in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 16 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the ion guide rods are constructed of a flexible material and the positioning guide and the first end of the ion guide rods are movable in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 17 (Amended): The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the second end of the ion guide rods are fixed in place.

Claim 18 (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the ion guide rods are constructed of a flexible material and the positioning guide and the first end of the ion guide rods are movable in the X direction and the Y direction.

Claim 19 (Amended): The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the second end of the ion guide rods are fixed in place.

Claim 20 (Amended): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein digital information associated with the at least one sample₁ is positioned on the disc.

Claim 21 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the inspection means is further capable of examining and inspecting information stored on the surface of the compact disc.

Claim 22 (Original): The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the information is stored on the surface of the compact disc on which the sample is stored.

Claim 23 (Original): The apparatus of claim 21 further comprised of a second inspection means for examining and inspecting information stored on a surface of the

compact disc that is opposite the surface on which the sample is stored.

Claim 24 (Canceled)

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Claim 25 (Original): The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the information stored on the disc relates to sample identity.

Claim 26 (Original): The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the information stored on the disc relates to movement of the disc.

Claim 27 (Amended): An analytical device for determining the properties of at least one sample of material, the

analytical device comprising

a base,

a substrate adapted to be rotatably received by said base, said substrate having deposited thereon at least one sample of the material to be analyzed,

an inspection means for effecting a physical change in at least one sample, the inspection means movably associated with said base,

a translation system capable of movement in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction and adapted to effect a change in position between the inspection

means and the substrate, causing the inspection means to register with the at least one sample on said substrate, at a predetermined location on said substrate.

Claim 28 (Amended): The analytical device of claim 27, wherein the analytical device is [selected from the group consisting of] a mass spectrometer, [, a fluorescence detector, an infrared spectrometer, a UV spectrometer, a UV-visible spectrometer, a RAMAN

spectrometer, a surface plasma resonator, and an atomic force microscope.]

Claim 29 (Canceled)

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Claim 30 (Amended): The analytical device of claim 27 further comprised of a scanning assembly that includes a plurality of ion guide rods fixed in a positioning guide, the ion guide rods defining an inlet at a first end [proximate] proximal to the compact disc, an outlet at a second end [proximate] proximal to an entrance to the analytical device, the positioning guide further having a lens situated within the positioning guide for allowing the passage of laser energy through the positioning guide.

Claim 31 (Amended): The analytical device of claim [27] 30, wherein the positioning guide is fixed in place.

Claim 32 (Amended): The analytical device of claim [27] 30, wherein the positioning guide is movable in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 33 (Amended): The analytical device of claim [27] 30, wherein the positioning guide is movable in the X direction and the Y direction.

Claim 34 (Amended): The analytical device of claim [27] 30, wherein the positioning guide, ion guide rods, and analytical device are movable in concert in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 35 (Amended): The analytical device of claim [27] 30, wherein the ion guide rods are constructed of a flexible material and the positioning guide and the first end of the ion guide rods are movable in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction.

Claim 36 (Original): The analytical device of claim 35 wherein the second end of the ion guide rods are fixed in place.

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Claim 37 (Original): The analytical device of claim 36 wherein the ion guide rods are constructed of a flexible material and the positioning guide and the first end of the ion guide rods are movable in the X direction and the Y direction.

Claim 38 (Original): The analytical device of claim 37 wherein the second end of the ion guide rods are fixed in place.

Claim 39 (Original): The analytical device of claim 27 wherein digital information is associated with the at least one sample is positioned on the disc.

Claim 40 (Original): The analytical device of claim 22 wherein the inspection means is further capable of examining and inspecting the information stored on the compact disc.

Claim 41 (Original): The analytical device of claim 27 wherein the information is stored on the surface of the compact disc on which the sample is stored.

Claim 42 (Original): The analytical device of claim 27 further comprised of a second inspection means for examining and inspecting information stored on a surface of the compact disc that is opposite the surface on which the sample is stored.

Claim 43 (Canceled)

Claim 44 (Original): The analytical device of claim 27 wherein the information stored on the disc relates to sample identity.

Claim 45 (Original): The analytical device of claim 27 wherein the information stored on the disc relates to movement of the disc.

Claim 46 (Amended) A method for carrying out an inspection of a sample of a material comprising the steps of:

providing a compact disc;

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depositing at least one sample of a material to be analyzed onto the substrate;
inspecting the sample [inspection means] with a laser [for effecting] to effect a
physical change in at least one sample, probing the sample with inspection
means to effect a physical change in the sample; and
creating translational motion in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction
[motion] between the inspection means and at least one sample by moving one
of the substrate or the inspection means.

Claim 47 (Canceled)

Claim 48 (Canceled)

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Claim 49 (New) An apparatus for examining and inspecting at least one sample, in
order to determine the characteristics of the sample, the apparatus comprising:

- i) a support for rotatably receiving a compact disc, the compact disc
having deposited on a surface thereof at least one sample;
 - ii) an inspection means for effecting a physical change in at least one
sample, the inspection means being positioned for registration with the
surface of the compact disc bearing at least one sample; and
 - iii) a traversal mechanism, adapted for rotational motion and translational
motion in at least one of an X direction and a Y direction, and capable of
moving the sample in and out of the path of the inspection means.
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